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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):  
VERENIGING VOOR CHRISTELIJK WETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERWIJS [NL/NL]; De Boelelaan 1105, NL-1081 HV Amsterdam (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GEIJTENBEEK, Teunis, Bernard, Herman [NL/NL]; Guido van Dethlaan 49, NL-1187 TS Amstelveen (NL). VAN KOOYK, Yvette [NL/NL]; Oldenaller 9, NL-1081 HJ Amsterdam (NL).

(74) Agent: PRINS, A.W.; Nicuwc Parklaan 97, NL-2587 BN Den Haag (NL).

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(54) Title: C-TYPE LECTIN BINDING MOLECULES, IDENTIFICATION AND USES THEREOF

(57) Abstract: C-type lectins are involved in the binding of many different types of carbohydrates. Considering their diversity in kind and expression of different types of cells, the influence of such binding is very diverse and dependent among others on the type of cell, the environment of the cell and the type of carbohydrate bound. In the present invention new carbohydrate specificities of C-type lectins are disclosed. Interference with this binding property has uses in the prevention of pathogen binding and also in influencing signaling pathways in the C-type lectin containing cell, particularly in Toll like receptor expressing cells such as dendritic cells. Also provided is the use of the carbohydrate specificity to enhance antigen presentation by antigen presenting cells and to manipulate migration of C-type lectin containing cells and the interaction of C-type lectin expressing cells with cellular ligands on neighboring cells.